

Arne Croce has consistently impressed all who worked with him in his role as City Manager. During his tenure and through his efforts, San Mateo has continued to evolve and advance. In recent years, the city has added a new train station, state-of-the-art downtown movie theater, a fully-interactive new library, and will soon cut the ribbon on a true 21st century police station. Arne also oversees a program that provides scholarships to students pursuing studies in local government. His unceasing dedication to finding fresh, innovative ideas was a powerful force in keeping San Mateo solvent and thriving during economic hardships.

Madam Speaker, Arne Croce has served not only his city, but all of California as the dean of city managers. In this role he has been a bulldog when fighting for cities and a stellar role model for anyone considering a career in municipal government.

Arne is one of our best and brightest, a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, where he earned his MBA by attending night school. He worked for the Legislative Analyst in Sacramento, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments and the City of Visalia, where he held the positions of Solid Waste Manager, Director of Transportation and Deputy City Manager. In 1984, he became City Manager of Los Altos and in 1990, assumed the same job in San Mateo.

All who know Arne regret that he is leaving, especially me, but local government's loss is the world's gain. His passion for service and commitment to helping people is not retiring. Arne wants to help teach developing countries the finer points of local government and developing citizen participation. He also plans to relocate to a village in Tanzania to work on restoring the local ecosystem with a reforestation project.

Madam Speaker, it is this dedication, this drive to act and think both locally and globally, that has earned Arne Croce such widespread respect and admiration. He will be missed in San Mateo and throughout the 12th Congressional District. Even those who've never met Arne are forever in his debt.

HONORING MONSIGNOR JOHN  
BRENKLE OF NAPA COUNTY,  
CALIFORNIA

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Monsignor John Brenkle on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination. Monsignor Brenkle has been a pillar of the community in my hometown, St. Helena, California, for 25 years.

Monsignor Brenkle has had a long and distinguished career in the church. He attended St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, California, and was ordained on June 14, 1958 through the Archdiocese of San Francisco. He received his Doctorate in Canon Law from The Catholic University of America in 1962. He served as Chancellor of the Diocese in Santa Rosa until 1971, followed by two years of teaching in Zambia. He came to the Napa Valley in 1979 as Parish Administrator at Our

Lady of Perpetual Health in Calistoga before being assigned as Pastor of St. Helena Catholic Church in 1983, where he has been ever since.

Monsignor Brenkle stands out in the larger Napa Valley community as an example of the best aspects of his faith. He serves on numerous local boards, including Catholic Charities, the Board of Directors of Justin-Siena High School, Catholic Community Foundation, Community Foundation of Napa Valley, California Human Development Corporation and the St. Helena Mayor's Multi-cultural Committee.

Monsignor Brenkle never fails to answer the call for the working poor and less fortunate in our community. He is a champion for Napa Valley farm workers and low-income individuals. He was a driving force to create a successful farm worker program for day laborers, and helped establish low income housing at three major sites in the Valley. Father Brenkle also founded a Hispanic Scholarship Program which has raised tens of thousands of dollars over the years. Father Brenkle continues to be a significant advocate for worker's rights and social justice, particularly in hospitals and vineyards throughout the region.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate Monsignor John Brenkle for his 50 years of service to the Catholic Church and the people around him, and to thank him for his innumerable contributions to our community. I join all those whose lives he has touched in wishing him many more years of fulfillment.

### IN TRIBUTE TO TENNYSON HIGH SCHOOL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the fiftieth Anniversary of Tennyson High School, located in Hayward, California. On June 7th, students, staff and alumni gathered at the school to celebrate this milestone anniversary.

"Be proud to be a Tennyson Lancer" is the message educators passed along to current students at Tennyson High. "Many former students take pride and have so much respect for their alma mater and we want that to transcend into today's student," activities director Monique Walton said in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary.

Alumni were on hand for the event, which featured acknowledgements of the ten-, twenty-, thirty-, and forty-year reunions, recognition of sports championships and an alumni-versus-students skills competition.

Staff and former campus educators were also honored during the dedication ceremony for those who have made an impact on the school community. Norm Prince, a former football coach, and Victor Serrano, a former soccer coach who now serves as the school's technology coordinator, had the multi-use athletic field named after them.

Paula Banchemo, who began her teaching career at Tennyson before becoming a long-time administrator, was also honored with the school's administrative hall being named Paula Banchemo Way. Banchemo spent nearly

40 years at Tennyson High School before being transferred to another school.

Teacher Dan Morrison, who helped organize the fiftieth anniversary celebration, hopes this celebratory event will help lay the groundwork for an alumni association. The goal of the alumni association is to assist Tennyson students in fundraising for sports programs, band, and other programs.

I extend my heartiest congratulations to all who have contributed to the success of Tennyson High School since its opening in 1958 and I send my best wishes to all who continue to work for the well being of Tennyson students.

### 41ST ANNIVERSARY OF LOVING v. VIRGINIA

### HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2008

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a milestone in the struggle for equality and civil rights. On this day 41 years ago, the Supreme Court ruled that the United States would no longer allow race-based restrictions on marriage to deprive Americans of their rights. Today, on the anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision in *Loving v. Virginia*, we are once again reminded that America is a place of equality and freedom.

As an interracial couple, Mildred and Richard Loving challenged laws in effect in Virginia and 15 other states which prohibited interracial marriage. On June 12, 1967 the Supreme Court recognized the merits of Mr. and Mrs. Loving's claims and overturned all race-based restrictions on marriage.

The Court ruled unanimously that Virginia's prohibition against interracial marriage violated both the Due Process Clause and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. In its decision, the Court held that, "The Fourteenth Amendment requires that the freedom of choice to marry not be restricted by invidious racial discrimination. Under our Constitution, the freedom to marry, or not marry, a person of another race resides with the individual and cannot be infringed by the State."

On this day, I would like to celebrate the lives and audacity of both Mr. and Mrs. Loving, whose vision paved the way for a freer and more colorblind society in America. Richard Loving died in a car accident in 1975 and we lost Mildred Loving to pneumonia only last month. It is the courage and the spirit of the Lovings and others like them that continue to give us hope that Americans from all walks of life will be free from discrimination.

There have been recent efforts in Congress to strip the courts of jurisdiction by legislative means. This is ill-advisable and I hope the example of *Loving v. Virginia* serves as a reminder to us all that this is a precarious path. Should the Court have been stripped of jurisdiction to hear this case, as some have proposed for certain controversial issues, this landmark case would have never been possible. What was once highly controversial is now accepted as commonplace thanks to those judges who were, at the time, disparaged for being "activist judges". Today we are a better, stronger and fairer nation thanks to their jurisprudence.